

**REMARKS**

This Amendment and Response addresses the final Office action dated February 12, 2007, and is submitted within two months of the mailing date of the final Office action. Accordingly, at a minimum, an Advisory Action is requested. However, for the reasons set forth below, our primary request is for the withdrawal of the finality of the Office action and issuance of a notice of allowance of the claims. No claims are amended. Accordingly, after entry of this Amendment and Response, claims 1-38 remain pending.

**I. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112**

Claims 33-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. Specifically, the omitted step is transferring the stack pointer value from the stack pointer register to the second stack save area. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office action alleges that saving the stack pointer value in a save area in memory is essential because it is required by the testing step for future context switching (see Office action, page 2). The Applicant respectfully disagrees. When a least significant bit ("LSB") of the stack pointer register is used to indicate a word size of the data values stored in a set of registers, the LSB may be tested by the processor for either word size because the low order bits of the stack pointer are stored in the save area for both word sizes when the low order bits of all register values (which includes the stack pointer register value) are copied to the save area. That is, saving the stack pointer value again in a save area is redundant and accordingly not essential.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 33-38 comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and such indication is respectfully requested.

**II. Allowable Subject Matter**

The Examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 1-32 are allowed and that claims 33-38 would be allowable if claim 33 is amended as suggested. At this time claim 33 has not been amended as suggested. For the above disclosed discussed reasons with regard to independent claim 33, Applicant believes that claims 33-38 are in form for allowance without amendment and such indication is requested. Applicant reserves the right to amend claim 33 as suggested at a later date.

III. Conclusion

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his thorough review of the application. This Amendment and Response is submitted within the two month timeframe for receiving an advisory action. The Applicant respectfully submits the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the issuance of a Notice of Allowability as soon as practicable.

The Applicant believes no fees or petitions are due with this filing. However, should any such fees or petitions be required, please consider this a request therefor and authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1415 as necessary.

If the Examiner should require any additional information or amendment, please contact the undersigned attorney.

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Respectfully submitted,



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